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Thursday, September 20, 2012

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RIISING TO THE DEBATE

Mike Savage answers a question with the other five candidates in the background during a HRM mayoral debate at the Lord Nelson Hotel on Wednesday night. The debate was hosted by Our HRM Alliance and the Downtown Halifax Business Commission. Story, page 3. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Mayor gives up role as executor

Peter Kelly, who made headlines for allegedly taking \$145K from woman's estate, was not in court for 10-minute proceeding PAGE 4



Meet the new normal

The latest Canadian census shows the traditional family has gone the way of the station wagon PAGE 14-15

Word on the Street? Write

Local author Steven Laffoley says tenacity is the key to literary success PAGE 19

Moose numbers look healthy

Illness-plagued players are on the mend as team heads into Friday's season opener PAGE 32

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A full-body photograph of Lana Del Rey standing against a light blue background. She is wearing a long-sleeved, fuzzy pink sweater and matching pink pants. Her hair is styled in a high, voluminous bouffant. She is wearing large, ornate earrings and has a small tattoo on her left wrist. Her hands are clasped in front of her.

Lana Del Rey wears

Sweater

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Quoted

"I think we need to talk about government with guts because that's what we are going to need to get us out of this mess."

Fred Connors

"In 1848, Halifax was responsible for the first instance of responsible government in the British Commonwealth. In the last two years, it doesn't seem we do that anymore.... We have to get back to what made this city great."

Aaron Eisses

"I'm doing the best I can because I care about this city, and I think more people should get involved in the political process."

Steve Mackie

"It has to be what I believe in ... such as a mayor and council that are not afraid to operate in full view of the citizens that they represent."

Tom Martin

"Let's start saying yes and let's start following through on our actions. Let's say yes to public art. Let's say yes to transit that works ... let's say yes to controlled growth."

Robert Wesley McCormack

"You show leadership not by a vote but by collegial leadership and getting people to understand the common goals that we all share."

Mike Savage



The six mayoral hopefuls on stage Wednesday night at the Lord Nelson Hotel during a candidates debate hosted by Our HRM Alliance and Downtown Halifax Business Commission. JEFF HARPER/METRO

No fuss, no muss, no fireworks: Mayoral debate a genteel affair

Candidates. Range of ideas offered on range of topics



RUTH DAVENPORT
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The latest mayoral debate touched on a few high-profile controversies — but remained a debate only in name.

The six candidates read from similar playbooks during the HRM Alliance debate

at the Lord Nelson Hotel Wednesday night, answering nearly two dozen questions from the moderator and audience.

Presumptive front-runner Mike Savage criticized the current council and mayor on several fronts, but most stridently for the Occupy Nova Scotia eviction.

"I think (Peter Kelly) betrayed them, insulted our veterans, and embarrassed the community," he said. "Did it have to end? Yes. Did it have to end in disgrace the way it did last year? No."

Fred Connors repeated his

concern for making Halifax a "youthful" city, and showed some willingness to practice a little "tough love."

"I don't think we pay enough for water," he told an audience member concerned about rising water costs. "That may not be a popular answer, but when you think of what it is we get when we turn on our tap...I don't think we pay enough for it."

Tom Martin got loud applause from the sizeable crowd for a firm anti-biosolid stance.

"I am 100 per cent against

Put to the question

21

Total number of questions put to candidates.

the use of biosolids on private or public land in HRM," he said. "I've seen the damage biosolids on fields have done on water supplies in rural areas."

Newcomer Aaron Eisses offered several common-sense responses on topics like pub-

lic transit and the new Dartmouth bridge terminal.

"There's two parking lots right beside Alderney Landing, and that's where that new terminal should have gone," he said. "It's a complete and utter disconnect. The former administration wasn't paying attention to transit and wasted money in their transit development."

Steve Mackie and Robert Wesley McCormack appeared out of their depth, speaking the fewest times and offering vague responses to the odd question.

On the web



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Court. Case to be heard in October for would-be council candidate

A would-be Halifax regional council candidate will have her case heard next month before a Supreme Court judge after being told she is not eligible to run in the Oct. 20 election.

A hearing into the case of Angela Jones, who has been a lawyer for the municipality for 15 years, was set for Oct. 2 during a hearing Wednesday at the law courts in Halifax.

The Municipal Elections Act requires city employees to take a leave of absence if running for council. Jones is currently carrying out a parental leave that runs well into November and maintains that she was told by returning officer Cathy Mellett that her current leave would qualify under the act.

Jones filed her nomination papers, but received an email Sept. 13 notifying her that she had not taken "the required leave of absence" and that her papers would not be accepted, the email read.

Jones, hoping to run in District 4 (Cole Harbour), said outside court she feels "like a mother who's abandoned her child."

"I feel very dismayed that I can't be out there actively campaigning," said Jones. "I want to be out there in the trenches and getting to know everyone."



Angela Jones JEFF HARPER/METRO

Jones said she hopes residents recognize she's "fighting so that I can represent Cole Harbour."

"And it's at my expense," she said, referring to the legal fees associated with the case. "It just goes to show how much I want to be their (councillor)."

In documents filed with the court, Jones' lawyer Matthew Moir argues a returning officer that has accepted a nomination cannot subsequently reject the nomination.

It also argues the returning officer cannot express to a prospective candidate that they qualify and then determine that the candidate does not qualify after having accepted the nomination.

ALY THOMSON/FOR METRO

Accident. Man dead after motorcycle crash

RCMP are investigating a motorcycle accident that killed a man in western Nova Scotia.

Police say a passing driver came across the accident shortly after 6 a.m. Wednesday on Second Division Road near Saint Martin.

They have not released the name of the 20-year-old motorcyclist, who died at the scene.

The investigation into the cause of the accident is ongoing, but police do not believe any other vehicles were involved. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



One of the applicants against Peter Kelly, Elizabeth Herritt, left, and Kelly's lawyer, Bianca Kreuger, leave probate court on Wednesday morning.

JEFF HARPER/METRO

Kelly to step down as estate executor

Brief. Court proceeding, which the mayor didn't attend, lasted less than 10 minutes.



ALY THOMSON
halifax@metronews.ca

Mayor Peter Kelly has agreed to step down as executor of a deceased woman's estate, whose heirs allege he took nearly \$150,000.

Judge Peter Ronsinski approved the order Wednesday morning during a brief hearing at Nova Scotia's probate court in Halifax to have Kelly removed as executor of Mary Thibeault's estate.

Kelly was not in court, but lawyer Bianca Kreuger,

who was representing him, said that he agreed to give up the role.

One of the applicants in the case, Elizabeth Herritt, will take over the administration of the estate, the court heard.

As part of the order, Kelly must give details of his time as executor and provide a full account of the estate's activities by Oct. 1.

Kelly has also been ordered to meet with the probate court registrar for a formal review of his time as executor by Jan. 15.

Several of the estate's beneficiaries had petitioned the court to have him removed. In documents filed in June, the applicants outlined their concerns about Kelly's accounting of the estate and his procrastination.

"We believe that Peter

Kelly has not acted in the best interest of the estate and his lack of effort on his part shows disrespect for Mary E. Thibeault's final wishes," the filing said.

Thibeault died more than seven years ago.

Kelly's role as executor of the estate made headlines after The Coast revealed Kelly made out cheques to himself and his son totalling about \$145,000.

Shortly after the story was published in February, Kelly announced he would not run for re-election in October.

The other applicants in the case are Gregory Oldfield, Catherine Ivany, Raymond Ivany, Phyllis Brunt, Sharon Mahoney and Peter Halleran. Herritt wouldn't speak to the media after leaving the courtroom.



Mayor Peter Kelly METRO FILE

No comment

Peter Kelly has repeatedly refused to comment on the matter publicly, saying it is personal. In response to an email Wednesday, Kelly said he would not be commenting about the case because the matter is before the courts.



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Garbage bins located to the side of the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts in Halifax on Wednesday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

'We just simply had to clean them out'

Music lover's worst nightmare. Maritime Conservatory just throws out thousands of old vinyl records

HALEY RYAN
halifax@metronews.ca

Some music lovers in Halifax were left scratching their heads after the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts threw out what is said to be thousands of vinyl records.

On Tuesday, a Kijiji ad in

Halifax reported that 10,000 records were sitting in the dumpster outside the conservatory on Chebucto Road, describing them as "classical, vintage and old vinyl."

"We just simply had to clean them out," said William Webster, chair of the conservatory's board of directors, when contacted by Metro about the records.

He added that the records,

which he would only say were "a lot," had been donated by people over the past few decades, and the building had no more room for them.

"I suspect that among them there are some treasures, but we just don't have the staff to ... sell them or put them out on display," Webster said.

After word of the records got out, some people on social media sounded off about

the conservatory's decision.

"Apparently the Maritime Conservatory has gone bonkers and is getting rid of 10k vinyls, get there before the rain hits," tweeted @will_hops.

Added @angrypez4: "Both Canadian Pickers had strokes after reading this."

On Wednesday, the records were apparently collected by HRM garbage workers and sent to the landfill.

Webster said staff at the conservatory had made an effort to give the vinyl to local record stores in the past.

"But there were just no takers for them," he said.



Quinpool Rd. development. Date set for public hearing

A public information meeting is set for Thursday night for input on an eight-storey mixed use development proposed for Quinpool Road.

Studioworks International has asked the municipality to amend local bylaws to allow the building to be located at the corner of Quinpool and Vernon streets.

A staff report initiating the amendment process in 2009 states the building exceeds the height restrictions for the area, but suggests the

proposal "has merit."

The plans call for a building eight storeys tall on the Quinpool side and three on the Pepperell side. The ground floor will provide more than 28,000 square feet of commercial space, with residential units on the upper floors and a landscaped rooftop. **METRO**

The meeting is set for 7 p.m. in Room 1020 of the Kenneth C. Rowe Management Building, 6100 University Ave.

Atlantic Film Festival. Closing gala Thursday

Just like that, the curtain is set to close on another Atlantic Film Festival.

The eight-day event featuring over 100 films shown at various venues in the city is wrapping up on Thursday night.

A Royal Affair is the closing gala film being shown at 7 p.m.

at Park Lane Theatre 8. It's one of 10 screening times on the final night, which also includes a closing gala party at the Lord Nelson Hotel.

Awards will also be handed out in various categories, including the audience awards for best feature, best documentary and best short. **METRO**

Bay of Fundy. Killer whale shows its fin

Whale watchers off Brier Island got to see a killer whale up close and personal this week.

Roy Small captains the Island Link for Brier Island Lodge, and Welcome Aboard Whale Watching Tours.

He says passengers on the afternoon trip Tuesday were already having a fantastic trip when, as they watched a pod of six humpbacks, they noticed a high dorsal fin a little

farther off.

"As soon as we saw it, we thought it must be a killer whale," says Small. "There just isn't anything else with a dorsal fin like that."

The passengers on the Island Link spent the next hour and a half watching a whale rarely seen in the Bay of Fundy.

Small has never seen one in 22 years on the water as a lobster fisherman and whale watch captain. **DIGBY COURIER**

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Nova Scotia. Pool of physicians to be created to serve rural ER shifts

A pool of physicians available to fill emergency room shifts in rural Nova Scotia will be created under a program announced Wednesday.

Health Minister David Wilson says the emergency department coverage program will improve access to ERs in the province's smaller communities.

To take part in the program, physicians must have appropriate clinical training and experience to match

Price tag

\$200K

the estimated cost of the program this year.

each designated facility.

Doctors must also agree to keep current commitments to ERs where they regularly provide service.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fall River school

Power outage sends students home

Students at Lockview Drive High School were dismissed early Wednesday because of a power outage in the area.

The outage occurred in the afternoon and students were dismissed just before 2 p.m., except for those waiting for buses. They were taken home after buses completed their regular elementary and junior high routes first. METRO

Boundaries

Province's electoral map draft sent to AG

A commission tasked with mapping out the province's electoral boundaries will deliver its final report to the attorney general Monday.

An earlier draft report from the Electoral Boundaries Commission was rejected after it recommended keeping four small francophone and black minority group ridings.

METRO

Fall River encouraging drivers to slow down

Speed limit. Pace Car program begins

HALEY RYAN

halifax@metronews.ca

Youngster Cole Howell has helped his mom turn their car into a speed bump.

Fall River has launched a Pace Car Program on Wednesday afternoon, where local people display large yellow and black magnets on their cars declaring they're "mobile speed bumps" in attempts to slow down speeders.

"It's certainly important to us," said Cole's mother, Amie Moore. "There's lots of con-

Acting now

- Janet Barlow said the community members in Fall River wanted a Pace Car Program now because with quickly expanding subdivisions there are more construction vehicles and people around.



Cole Howell of Fall River affixes a magnet to the rear of the family car on Wednesday. The neighbourhood was implementing a Pace Car program to reduce speeds in residential areas. JEFF HARPER/METRO

tinued development up in our streets ... the trucks just bomb up and down there."

The program, which began in Nova Scotia in 2006, was brought to Fall River by the St. Andrews Drive Community Group.

Area councillor Barry Dalrymple said speeding concerns have been the No. 1 issue since he's been in office, but

added it's rarely people from "away" that are the problem.

"It's your neighbours, your friends, and probably even you," he said. "Of all the places you should not be speeding, it's right here," he added about the intersection of Kinclaven Road and High Road, which is less than a kilometre from Lockview High School.

Janet Barlow is a spokesperson for the Ecology Action Centre, which is behind Pace Car Program.

She said Transport Canada gathered data in communities before and after it began and determined it is definitely effective.

"There was a significant difference in speeds on the streets," said Barlow.



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Marriage on the decline: Census

Modern families.

Data shows subtle increases in the percentage of same-sex and common-law Halifax couples

The institution of marriage is on the decline in the metropolitan area of Halifax, according to new census data that offers fresh insight into the more complex composition of modern-day Canadian families.

The latest information from the 2011 census, released Wednesday by Statistics Canada, re-

Number crunching

67.8%

Married couples in the Halifax region make up 67.8 per cent of all families, compared with 69.3 per cent in the 2006 census.

veals the many different ways Canadians live together as a family unit: married, common-law, same-sex, with or without children and — tracked for the first time — in Brady Bunch-style stepfamilies.

When the census was taken in May 2011, there were 109,770 families in the

census metropolitan area of Halifax. Statistics Canada defines a “census family” as being composed of a married or common-law couple, including those with children, or of a lone parent living with at least one child in the same household.

Married couples — those with and without children — make up 67.8 per cent of families in the Halifax region. That’s a decrease from the last census taken in 2006 when 69.3 per cent of couples were married. Common-law couples make up 15.4 per cent of the families, up from 2006.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MORE ON THE CENSUS, PAGES 14-15

Census breakdown

The new census data shows some other interesting details about families in the Halifax region:

- Stepfamilies — now defined by Statistics Canada as couples living with one or more children where at least one child is the biological or adopted child of only one of the parents — represent 6.1 per cent of all families in the Halifax region. This is the first time Statistics Canada has counted step-

families in a census.

- The percentage of people in the Halifax region who are divorced is 8.1, up from 7.7 per cent in 2006.
- A total of 0.5 per cent of children under the age of 15 live with at least one grandparent instead of a parent.
- 16.7 per cent of families are headed by single parents: 13.7 per cent by single mothers and 3.1 per

cent by single fathers.

- There are 1,160 same-sex couples (1.3 per cent of all metro Halifax couples), up from 815 (0.9 per cent) in 2006.

- 5.9 per cent of households have adult children aged 25 and over still living at home.

For more on the census results, visit metronews.ca



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Cheeky Charlie spooks France

Nation on alert. Mag's crude, lewd drawings of Muhammad force French to step up security at embassies across Muslim world

A feisty French satirical weekly forced France to step up security at its embassies across the Muslim world on Wednesday.

The paper, Charlie Hebdo brazenly revived a formula it has already used to capture attention: Publishing crude, lewd caricatures of Islam's Prophet Muhammad.

Wednesday's issue sparked concerns that France could face violent protests like the ones targeting the U.S. over a film produced in California that have left at least 30 people dead.

The Charlie Hebdo drawings — some depicted Muhammad naked and in demeaning or pornographic poses — were met with a swift rebuke by the French government.

The principle of freedom of expression "must not be infringed," Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius said on French radio. But he added: "Is it pertinent, intelligent, in



Pakistan embroiled in worldwide protests: A Pakistani lawyer helps a colleague who fell during a scuffle with police in an Islamabad demonstration on Wednesday. The demo followed three days of violence in Pakistan sparked by the U.S. anti-Islam video. ANJUM NAVEED/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

this context to pour oil on the fire? The answer is no."

France ordered its embassies, cultural centres, schools and other official sites to close on Friday — the Muslim holy day — in 20 countries.

It also immediately shut down its embassy and the French school in Tunisia, the site of deadly protests at the U.S. Embassy last week.

Riot police took up positions outside the maga-

zine's offices, which were firebombed last year after it released an edition that mocked radical Islam.

Anger over the film Innocence of Muslims has fuelled violent protests

from Asia to Africa. In the Lebanese port city of Tyre, tens of thousands of people marched in the streets Wednesday, chanting: "Oh, America, you are God's enemy!"

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Actress sues

First, riots... and now a lawsuit

An actress who appears in the anti-Muslim film that has sparked riots across the world is suing the filmmaker for fraud and slander.

Cindy Lee Garcia's lawsuit also targets Google in a bid to get the movie's trailer removed online.

The lawsuit filed Wednesday in Los Angeles claims the actress was duped by Nakoula Basseley Nakoula, the man behind Innocence of Muslims who has been forced into hiding.

The lawsuit says Garcia responded to an ad and thought she was appearing in an ancient Egyptian adventure film.

"The film is vile and reprehensible," Garcia's attorney, M. Cris Armenta, wrote in the document.

The film portrays the Prophet as a fraud, womanizer and child molester.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Soldier thrown away 'like a tissue paper,' panel told

A former soldier says the military failed to keep a close enough eye on a suicidal Afghan vet the day he killed himself.

Kirk Lackie testified Wednesday at the Military Police Complaints Commission inquiry into Cpl. Stuart Langridge's death.

The inquiry was called following complaints from Langridge's family that the investigations into his suicide were botched. "The truth has not been told," Lackie said at the close of an emotional testimony.

Lackie said everyone on the base knew about Langridge's struggles with addiction, but dismissed them.

"There's a saying: The army uses you like a tissue

paper," Lackie said.

"As soon as they're finished with you, like a tissue paper they throw you away."

"And Stu, was to them, a really dirty tissue paper."

"They threw him away, but they just didn't want to throw him away, they wanted to scoop him under the carpet."

Langridge had been placed on a suicide watch and someone was supposed to check on him roughly every 30 minutes.

That wasn't what the logbook showed, Lackie said.

Langridge was found hanging at Canadian Forces Base Edmonton in March 2008.

Lackie was released from the military in 2010.

Over those years, he testified, he tried to tell military personnel what happened the day of Langridge's death but no one ever contacted him.

He was finally interviewed last week.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Veteran Kirk Lackie testifies Wednesday. The Crown opposed his appearance on the stand because of a series of run-ins with the law. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Scholars in a tizzy. Did Jesus have a wife ... or maybe a female disciple?

Was Jesus Christ married? Is a scrap of papyrus suggesting he had a wife authentic?

The questions were talking points among scholars — not to mention ordinary folk — on Wednesday.

Scholars questioned the authenticity and significance of a discovery by a Harvard scholar who reported that a fourth-century fragment of papyrus provided the first evidence that some early Christians believed Jesus was married.

Karen King, a professor at Harvard Divinity School, announced the finding Tuesday at an international congress on Coptic studies in Rome.

Is it a forgery?

The fragment of papyrus is tiny, measuring four centimetres by eight centimetres, about the size of a small cellphone.

- **Named.** The text, written in Coptic, contains a dialogue in which Jesus refers to "my wife," whom he identifies as Mary.

Coptic linguist Wolf-Peter Funk said there were "thousands of scraps of papyrus where you find crazy things."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bliss in Berkeley

A landmark day for bisexuals

Berkeley, Calif., has become what is thought to be the first U.S. city to officially proclaim a day recognizing bisexuals.

The city council unanimously declared Sept. 23 as

Bisexual Pride and Bi Visibility Day.

Since 1999, bisexuals have claimed the date, and bisexual-pride events are held in Los Angeles, Boston, Chicago and other cities.

But Berkeley is believed to be the first city that has taken the step of formally acknowledging the day.

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Quoted

"I want Stu's ma and everybody to know the truth."

Kirk Lackie, testifying in Ottawa on Wednesday.

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First female premier of Quebec sworn in

New leader. Marois officially becomes first woman to lead Quebec

Pauline Marois has been sworn in as the 30th premier of Quebec — and is the very first woman to hold the job in that province.

She also becomes the fifth current female premier of a Canadian province or territory.

Marois and her cabinet were officially sworn in Wednesday afternoon in Quebec City.

The daughter of a garage mechanic and a teacher, Marois has held a number of powerful political roles in a 30-year career that has seen her run most of the largest provincial ministries.

Marois had to be whisked off the stage during her victory speech when a gunman approached the assembly hall

Mandate

Marois is set to seek parts of her agenda this fall.

- **Language.** She has called tougher language laws a top priority.
- **Power.** She may also battle Ottawa for more provincial powers.

and shot two people, killing a stage technician.

Marois was held to a minority in the Sept. 4 vote; her margin of victory was less than one percentage point in the popular vote and four seats in the legislature.

That minority status makes it all but impossible for her Parti Québécois government to hold an independence referendum.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Quebec Premier Pauline Marois after being sworn in on Wednesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/JACQUES BOISSINOT

Election-night shooting. Accused gunman speaks out from jail hospital

The accused killer who allegedly ruined the Parti Québécois election-night celebration is speaking out from his jailhouse as the new government is being sworn in.

Montreal radio station CJAD reported that Richard Henry Bain phoned its newsroom from his prison infirmary on Wednesday to say that he believes the city should separate from the province.

It says they interviewed him for half an hour, but chose to only run a brief snippet.

In a clip that aired, Bain is heard sharing his view that Montreal should separate from the rest of Quebec because, in

his opinion, that might help ensure greater peace between anglophones and francophones.

"My vision is that the island of Montreal separate to become its own province," Bain said.

The radio station says Bain placed the call without his lawyer's knowledge.

The businessman faces a charge of first-degree murder in connection with the shooting that took place only metres from where the PQ premier-designate Pauline Marois was giving her victory speech.

One man was killed and another was wounded.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Jean Charest exits office

Outgoing Quebec Premier Jean Charest waves goodbye as he leaves the lieutenant-governor's office Wednesday at the legislature in Quebec City. New premier Pauline Marois was sworn in later in the afternoon. JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS



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U.S. pressured to set standards for arsenic in rice

Consumer Reports. FDA released 200 samples of rice products containing inorganic arsenic after a magazine released its own report

Consumer groups are pressuring the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to set federal guidance on allowable levels of arsenic in rice, prompting the agency to consider possible new standards.

So far, FDA officials say they have found no evidence that suggests rice is unsafe to eat. The agency is studying 1,200 samples of grocery-store rice products — short- and long-grain rice, cereals, drinks and even rice cakes — to measure arsenic levels.

Arsenic is naturally present in water, air, food and soil in



Rice near Alicia, Ark.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

two forms: organic and inorganic. According to the FDA, organic arsenic passes through the body quickly and is essentially harmless. Inorganic arsenic — the type found in some pesticides and insecticides — can be toxic and may pose a cancer risk if consumed at high

levels or over a long period.

The agency on Wednesday released 200 of the expected 1,200 samples after the magazine Consumer Reports released its own study and called for federal standards for arsenic in rice. The FDA will not complete its study until the end of the year, FDA commissioner Margaret Hamburg said.

"Our advice right now is that consumers should continue to eat a balanced diet that includes a wide variety of grains — not only for good nutrition but also to minimize any potential consequences from consuming any one particular food," she said.

The FDA's analysis showed average levels of 3.5 to 6.7 micrograms of inorganic arsenic per serving, while Consumer Reports found levels up to 8.7 micrograms. Consumer Reports tested 223 samples, 23 more than the FDA.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Olympians honoured on Parliament Hill

Prime Minister Stephen Harper presents Olympic kayaker Adam van Koevorden with the Diamond Jubilee medal during a ceremony in the Senate on Parliament Hill in Ottawa on Wednesday. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Satanic Verses

Rushdie dismisses new death threat

Salman Rushdie is dismissing the latest threat against his life as just talk. In 1989, Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini declared a Rushdie novel blasphemous and called for his death. Ayatollah Hassan Saneii recently raised the bounty to \$3.3 million. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Computer hacking

Former Toyota worker charged

A computer programmer from central Kentucky who once did contract work for Toyota has been charged with hacking into and damaging computers used by the automobile maker. The FBI charged Ibrahim Shahulhameed of Georgetown, Ky. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Border breach?

Palestinians arrested in B.C.

Canada Border Services officials are travelling to Kamloops, B.C., to speak to four people after a possible security breach at the Canada-U.S. border south of Vancouver. Kamloops RCMP say two Palestinian men were arrested there Tuesday evening. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Families

9.4M

Canada was home to 9,389,700 "census families" — married or common-law couples, or single parents — in 2011, 5.5 per cent more than in 2006.

Common-law couples

16.7%

For the first time, there were more common-law couples in Canada — 16.7 per cent of all census families — than single-parent families, at 16.3 per cent.

Same-sex couples

42.4%

Same-sex marriage nearly tripled as same-sex couples grew by 42.4 per cent. Same-sex common-law couples grew 15 per cent, compared with 13.8 per cent for opposite-sex common-law couples.

Single parents

8%

Single fathers grew by 16.2 per cent, compared with six per cent for single mothers, as lone-parent families grew eight per cent since 2006. Single mothers still constitute 80 per cent of single-parent families.

Stepfamilies

12.6%

Stepfamilies, counted for the first time in 2011, composed 12.6 per cent of Canada's 3.7 million couples with children. Nearly 60 per cent were "simple" stepfamilies: families in which the children are the biological or adopted offspring of only one parent.

Foster children

29.5K

The census counted 29,590 foster children aged 14 and under living in private households.

Empty nesters

44.5%

The number of couples without children at home (44.5 per cent) continued to outpace those couples with kids living at home (39.2 per cent).

Exclusively online

- Find out where Canada's highest proportions of single women and men are, the city with the largest number of same-sex marriages and more about your area on our interactive map at metronews.ca



From same-sex couples and single dads to foster kids and empty nesters, the "new normal" of the Canadian family is as diverse as the country itself, Statistics Canada reports. THE CANADIAN PRESS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

GROUNDSHIFT FOR THE

2011 census. There's no such thing as a 'typical' Canadian family, a new report from Statistics Canada shows

The nuclear family is no longer the norm in Canada.

The mom-pop-and-three-kids-under-one-roof model that typified Canadian households of 50 years ago has morphed into a complex and diverse web of family ties involving living alone, remarriage, stepchildren, empty nesters and several generations sharing a home.

Statistics Canada has re-

leased the third tranche of new data from its 2011 census, this time portraying the changes in Canadian families and living arrangements over five decades.

Married couples are in a long-term decline, the number of single parents has risen and the size of families has shrunk. In 1961, the average family was 3.9 people, when the baby boom was in full swing. Now it's 2.9.

"We do see more complexity and definitely more diversity in families," Statistics Canada demographer Anne Milan said.

For the first time, Statistics Canada says there are more people living alone in Canada than there are couples with children. One-person households now

make up 27.6 per cent of all homes, a three-fold increase since 1961.

Meanwhile, couples with children have continued their decline, down to 26.5 per cent of all households, from 28.5 per cent in 2006.

Just 10 years ago, couples with children under 24 years old made up 43.6 per cent of all families (not including one-person households), by far the most typical kind of family.

Now, parents with children make up just 39.2 per cent of families, and a rising proportion of those parents are not officially married.

For the first time, Statistics Canada zeroed in on children living in foster homes and blended families. In a national count of fos-

ter children, the agency revealed there were 29,590 of them under the age of 14 in 2011. A measure of the number of stepfamilies showed that one in 10 children now lives in some sort of blended family.

In 2011, the most typical family was a couple with no children, continuing a pattern spotted in 2006. Statistics Canada found that 44.5 per cent of families have no kids at home, partly reflecting the aging of the baby-boomer bulge, the leading edge of which has started turning 65.

"The modern family is changing, and I think it's a wonderful thing," said Shannon Kennedy, an Ottawa-based wedding planner who finds herself on the front

lines of fluctuating living arrangements on a daily basis.

"The rules of a nuclear family just don't apply any more."

The wide variety of family ties is throwing Kennedy for a loop. Emily Post, the guru of etiquette for most of the 20th century, is no longer of much help, she said.

"You don't necessarily have two families. In some cases, you have four families coming together at a wedding."

"Any scenario where you get more than one mom involved, you have to kind of juggle that," she said with a chuckle.

"The best thing about modern weddings is, there are no rules."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



FAMILY

FAMILIES BY PROVINCE

	CENSUS FAMILIES	% MARRIED	% COMMON LAW	% LONE PARENT	Avg. # KIDS AT HOME	% PEOPLE LIVING ALONE
CANADA	9,389,700	67.0	16.7	16.3	1.8	27.6
N.L.	159,385	71.7	12.9	15.3	1.6	22.2
P.E.I.	40,850	72.7	11.2	16.1	1.7	25.1
N.S.	270,065	68.5	14.3	17.3	1.7	27.9
N.B.	224,590	67.9	16.0	16.1	1.6	26.0
QUE.	2,203,630	51.9	31.5	16.6	1.7	32.2
ONT.	3,612,205	72.3	18.9	18.7	1.8	25.2
MAN.	327,875	71.0	11.9	17.1	1.9	28.2
SASK.	285,370	71.1	12.5	16.4	1.9	27.9
ALTA.	999,530	72.0	13.6	14.5	1.8	24.7
B.C.	1,238,155	71.7	13.0	15.3	1.7	28.3
YUKON	9,330	54.4	21.1	20.3	1.7	30.7
N.W.T.	10,930	36.0	28.7	21.3	1.9	23.6
NUNAVUT	7,780	39.1	32.7	28.3	2.3	18.2

New census data from Statistics Canada prove there is no such thing as a "generic" Canadian family. The numbers have significant implications for policy makers and social scientists who design programs for foster children, stepkids, single mothers and fathers, senior citizens living alone, "boomerang kids" living with their parents and all the other variations of modern family life. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Adulthood, interrupted: 'Boomerang kids' are an ongoing trend: Census

It's the home-game grudge match of the 21st century: The baby boomers versus the boomerang kids. And the kids, it seems, are winning.

Canada's nests aren't quite as empty as they were thought to be, data from the 2011 census shows. Some 42.3 per cent of young adults aged 20 to 29 are living with their parents, down slightly from 42.5 per cent in 2006, but still well above the level of 26.9 per cent in 1981.

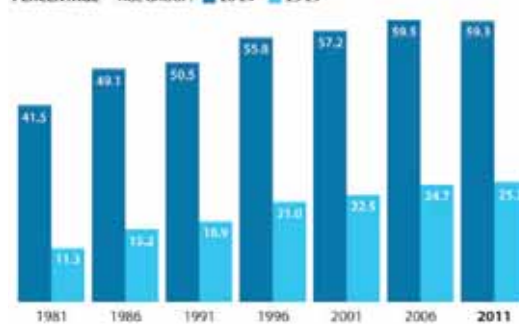
Christina Newberry was one of them — twice. First, when she was 21, newly graduated from university and trying to find her way in the world. Then again, eight years later, she went back to get her bearings in the midst of a divorce.

"My parents' house became a place to sort of take a chance to regroup and figure out what was next," said Newberry, a Vancouver-based author and freelance writer. "It wasn't even a financial issue, because by then I had a good job and could take care of my own bills. It was more just needing to figure out what to do next."

While many young adults

YOUNG ADULTS LIVING WITH PARENTS

PERCENTAGE AGE GROUP: 20-24 25-29



More young adults are sticking close to the nest. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

in their early 20s stay at home while in college or university — mainly due to a lack of money — those closer to 30 who opt to return tend to do so after a traumatic moment in their lives, such as the breakup of a relationship or the loss of a job, Newberry said. They usually stay just long enough to get back on their feet.

Social attitudes toward young adults living with their parents are changing dramatically, said Rod Beaujot, a demography professor at the University of

Western Ontario in London.

"There's the greater acceptability of living with parents when you're older — on the part of the parents, on the part of young people," Beaujot said.

"In the past, living at home was quite constraining on children, because they had to live under their parents' supervision. I think parents are much more open to children having their own life, including, of course, their own love lives, even if they're living at home."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Full house

The "failure-to-launch" phenomenon is alive and well in Canada, the 2011 census suggests.

- The census found 25.2 per cent of young adults between the ages of 25 and 29 living at home in 2011, up slightly from 24.7 per cent in 2006 — and more than twice the percentage in 1981.
- The number of young adults between the ages of 20 and 24 who lived with their parents remained virtually unchanged from the last census — down to 59.3 per cent in 2011 from 59.5 per cent in 2006.
- Young men are more likely than young women to live at home, Statistics Canada said. One possible reason, the agency suggested, could be because women tend to get into relationships earlier than men, so they move out sooner to start their own households.

Same-sex marriage. More gay couples exchanging wedding vows

Seven years after Ottawa gave its blessing to same-sex marriage, it's clear Canada's gay and lesbian couples have been seizing the wedding day.

Same-sex marriage nearly tripled between 2006 and 2011, while the number of same-sex couples jumped 42.4 per cent during the same five-year period, Statistics Canada says.

The agency counted 21,015 married gay and lesbian couples and another 43,560 in common-law relationships. The number is a sizable jump from the 2006 census, which counted same-sex couples for the first time and enumerated 45,350 of them — 7,465 married and 37,885 common-law.

Wider societal acceptance has likely played a role in the rising numbers, said demographer Rod Beaujot of the University of Western Ontario in London.

"It's become more acceptable for people to declare their relationships, including on the census," Beaujot said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Data glitch

Oops — just friends

An unexpectedly high number of same-sex marriages in places like the oilpatch left census-takers scratching their heads — until they realized many of the "couples" were only splitting the rent.

As a result, Statistics Canada said Wednesday, the agency may have overestimated by as many as 4,500 the number of same-sex married couples in parts of the country.

The agency held back some census data on gay and lesbian married couples when they realized they couldn't be certain if some people were married or just roommates.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Flying solo. Lone-parent families on rise, with more dads raising kids alone

More Canadians than ever — many of them fathers — are confronting the plight of the single parent in an age of economic uncertainty, the new census suggests.

The number of single parents jumped eight per cent between 2006 and 2011, including a 16 per cent spike in the number of single dads. Single mothers, who still constitute about 80 per cent of all single-

parent families in Canada, rose by six per cent.

Lone-parent families represented 16.3 per cent of all census families in 2011, nearly twice the percentage 50 years ago. In 1961, roughly two-thirds of lone parents were widowed, and the rest were divorced or separated, with a small percentage never having been married. Now, half are either divorced or separated. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

LONE-PARENT FAMILIES

A look at the Top 10 communities (population 10,000 or more) with the largest proportion of lone-parent families, according to 2011 census data:



Going it alone, from coast to coast. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Dangerous driving

Day parole for man who killed five

An Alberta man convicted of killing five people when he smashed his cement truck into the back of their car has been granted day parole.

Daniel Tschetter, 55, had already been spotted driving dangerously before his truck slammed into a vehicle stopped at a red light in Calgary in December 2007. The impact was so violent that pieces of

the car were scattered for hundreds of metres along Macleod Trail.

He was sentenced in October 2009 to 5 1/2 years in prison for manslaughter and obstruction of justice. He is also banned from ever driving a commercial vehicle again.

Tschetter made another bid for parole Wednesday during a hearing at the Drumheller Penitentiary.

Tschetter was denied full parole, but was granted permission to live in a halfway house. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

RCMP

Taser use, threats declining rapidly

An RCMP watchdog found that threatened or actual use of the Taser by RCMP officers dipped 14 per cent from 2009 — continuing a downward trend.

In addition, the Commission for Public Complaints Against the RCMP says actual firing of the Taser declined by more than one-quarter from the previous year.

The commission exam

ined 597 reports filed by officers who either used their Taser or pulled it out of a holster.

Brewing concerns about Taser use bubbled over in 2007 when Polish immigrant Robert Dziekanski died at the Vancouver airport after being hit with an RCMP stun gun.

In spring 2010, the Mounties introduced a new Taser policy, saying they would fire them at people only when they're hurting someone or clearly about to do so. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



A caregiver picks out a marijuana bud for a patient at a legal medical-marijuana dispensary in Denver, Colo., on Tuesday. **ED ANDRIESKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Three states considering legalizing marijuana

Tax revenues a key selling point. How feds — who consider pot illegal — will react is anyone's guess

A catchy pro-marijuana jingle for Colorado voters considering legalizing the drug goes like this: "Jobs for our people. Money for schools. Who could ask for more?"

It's a bit more complicated than that in the three U.S. states — Colorado, Oregon and Washington — that could become the first to legalize marijuana this year.

The debate over how much tax money legalizing marijuana could produce is playing an outsized role in the campaign.

Looming above that issue is how the federal government will respond, since it considers the drug illegal.

Pro-pot campaigners say legalizing marijuana could help struggling states with new taxes on the drug and reduced criminal justice costs. But skeptics warn legalization would lead to costly legal battles and expensive new bureaucracies to

As is stands

Legality of personal-use marijuana possession by state (11 states have no state-wide policy):

- **Illegal.** Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Idaho, Kansas, Maryland*, New Jersey, New Mexico*, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Wyoming
- **Misdemeanour.** Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky
- **Decriminalized.** Alaska, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Virginia

*excluding medical usage

regulate the drug.

The biggest unknown: Would the federal government allow legal marijuana?

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Black-market bonanza: Canadians dodge sales tax where they can

No guilty feelings.

New survey finds that only 30 per cent think it's wrong to avoid tax by paying in cash

The vast majority of Canadians pay taxes each year, but a new survey suggests they are prepared to cheat at the margins if they think they can get away with it.

The survey for H&R Block Canada found 55 per cent of respondents saying that when dealing with a contractor, they would opt to pay cash to avoid sales taxes.

And they are not feeling overly guilty about it either. Only 30 per cent said they thought the avoidance wrong. Among young Canadians aged 18-34, only 17 per cent said it was wrong to avoid paying the sales tax.

The findings don't seem to be related specifically to sales

Underground economy

Statistics Canada estimated the underground economy amounted to about \$36 billion in 2008.

- The agency said underground activities were most prevalent in the construction industry, retail trade and accommodation and food services.
- The good news is that as a percentage of the economy, the agency said, evidence suggests underground activities declined from 2.7 per cent of gross domestic product in 1992 to 2.2 per cent in 2008.

taxes, which range from a low of five per cent in Alberta to a high of 15.5 per cent in Prince Edward Island.

A majority of Canadians believe they shouldn't have to declare bartered transactions,

nor do they feel workers in the service industry like waiters and bartenders should need to declare tips as income.

"I think it boils down to people feeling they pay enough tax, that they shouldn't have to pay anymore," said Cleo Hamel, a senior tax analyst with H&R Block.

Another factor may have to do with the recent introduction of the HST combining federal and provincial sales taxes in Ontario and Quebec, which increased the number of services subject to higher combined tax rates.

But Hamel said Canadians should be wary of cheating the tax man. If caught, they are liable not just for the tax, but also penalties that can double the amount owing. The government also has the option of prosecuting tax cheats.

The online survey of 1,500 adult Canadians was conducted by Leger Marketing over three days between July 30 and Aug. 1.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Swiped! Groupon launches card-reader attachment

Groupon launched a new payment service Wednesday that allows businesses to run credit cards using an iPhone or iPod Touch, thus becoming the latest company to seek a portion of that growing market. It will go up against eBay Inc.'s PayPal unit and Twitter co-founder Jack Dorsey's Square, which also allow merchants to swipe credit cards on their phones using a small card-reader attachment. Groupon

South Africa

Wage agreement ends deadly mining strike

Lonmin Platinum's 28,000 miners celebrated a wage deal Wednesday that ended a deadly strike in South Africa. At Marikana, the location of the protracted strike, thousands gathered and sang the national anthem in piercing heat. Many workers said they were happy to return to work Thursday, and glad that the strike that saw 45 people killed has finally come to an end.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR
102.62¢ (+0.01¢)

TSX
12,436.16 (+13.45)

OIL
\$91.98 US (-\$3.31)

GOLD
\$1,771.70 US (+\$0.50)

Natural gas: \$2.762 US (-1¢)
Dow Jones: 13,577.96 (+13.32)

ATLANTIC FILM FESTIVAL

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AN UNTAPPED MARKET: SONG SEQUELS



HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

If you're looking to make it big in the music industry, I've got just the solution.

Hard work? Talent? Originality? Excuse me while I take a drink so I can spit it out in a comedic

fashion.

No, my idea will work precisely because it is so lazy and unoriginal: sequels. We need to write song sequels.

Think about it. What industry, like music, has less to do with skill and more to do with giving the mouth-breathers what they want? The movie industry, of course.

And there's no more sure a bet at the movies than a sequel. Of the top-10-grossing movies so far this year, eight were sequels, reboots or adaptations.

If the movie industry can have a huge hit with Ice Age 4, just imagine what the music industry can do with future hits like Mr. Tambourine Man 2: Electric Boogaloo. Here are a few ideas to get you started.

Song ideas 2: Seems to me I've heard this song before ...

- **Call Me Maybe 2: Call Me Maybe-er:** In this romantic romp, a mysterious stranger gives Carly Rae Jepsen HIS number. Will she stay with Mr. Ripped Jeans, or run off with the "new guy/who makes me feel so high?" Maybe both!
- **In the Year 2526: Man is still alive ... but for how long?**
- **Psycho Killer Episode I: The Phantom Menace:** In this much-anticipated prequel, we learn that the psycho killer was once a young whiny teenager who had infinite potential but was portrayed by a terrible actor. The bridge is something about a tax dispute.
- **Rock and Roll Part 2, Part 2:** Same as Part I, except the "Hey!" is spoken solemnly by Morgan Freeman, for a touch of gravitas.
- **The Boxer 2: The Whores on Seventh Avenue:** You think you know the full story, but you don't. Listen to the story of a boxer and fighter by trade, from the vantage point of the Pretty Woman who loves him! But will she "lie lie lie" to get him?
- **100 Problems: Jay-Z has no problems with his girl, but he wasn't counting on ... a new baby!** Feel bad for his daughter.
- **Johnny Be Even Better!** Johnny is now a man and the leader of a big old band. But as people come from miles around, the theatre is slated for demolition. Can Johnny play his way out of this one?
- **American Pie Crossover: Hot Cross Buns!** Don McLean sings about making love to an apple pie and grabbing the hot buns of Lady Liberty. The lyrics are cryptic, but you know what he's singin' about! (Wink!)
- **Escape From The Bridge Over Troubled Water:** The emotional tsunami of the original is replaced by a real tsunami. And, in the shocking climax, either Simon or Garfunkel will die (not Simon).

And there you go. If you use any of my ideas, I will be deeply honoured and flattered. Also, I will be suing for \$10 million for theft of intellectual property and loss of livelihood.

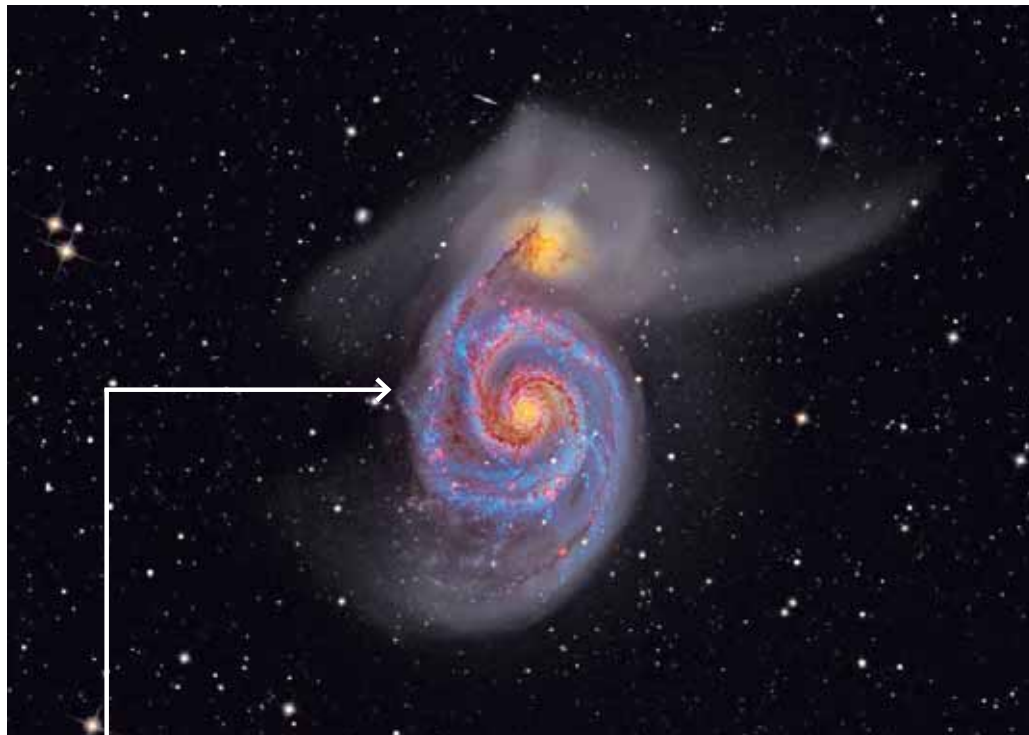
So get writing!



A strategic career song for Jay-Z: 100 problems, and a baby is one.

GETTY IMAGES

The deep space whirl



MARTIN PUGH

Astrophotography

Stunning star snap taken by amateur

Australia-based Martin Pugh has been named the Royal Observatory's Astronomy Photographer of the Year.

Pugh's image of the Whirlpool Galaxy (also known as M51), which also won the Deep Space category, was taken using a 43-centimetre-diameter PlaneWave telescope at an observatory in California's Sierra Nevada Mountains. **METRO**

Galaxy in numbers

37,000,000

light years is how far the Whirlpool Galaxy is from Earth. Pugh acquired his winning photo following a total exposure time of 28 hours.

Q & A

Better than Hubble

Marek, you were one of the competition's judges. What's so special about this image?

The technical skill in capturing the detail, the image's beautifully framed composition, and the sense of the infinite universe. The photographer has made the most of exceptionally good atmospheric conditions to capture an astonishing range of detail in his image of this iconic galaxy: The beautiful spiral structure,

dark lanes of dust, and the way the pink clouds of hydrogen really stand out. Here, you can see the small companion galaxy being gradually torn apart by the gravity of its giant neighbour. It's a remarkable achievement by an amateur astronomer. In many ways, it's better than an image by the Hubble Telescope.

This image is perhaps not the most eye-catching, but because of the amount of fine detail, it's a winner.



MAREK KUKULA
Royal Observatory Public Astronomer



Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

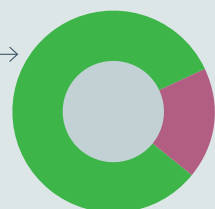
Will you be lining up for the iPhone 5?

82%

NO

0%

MAYBE



18%

YES

Twitter

@Mikeatexit:

To the person that hit my parked car & left. please don't worry about me I'll fix it don't mind paying for your inability to drive #Halifax

cheeseburgers out of a mini van, but they didn't need to shut me down!

@6packhabs:

Supposed to rain for the next 4 days in #Halifax? WTF? Is this pay-back for the great summer we had? #EvacuateTruro

@TuxedoParty:
@TeamSavageHRM Are you willing to help Stan improve the lives of Halifax cats?

@nickcalder:

Halifax food truck rules suck. Yeah, I was selling reheated McDonalds

@sparrowwand:
delicious breakfast from the good food emporium in the north end. Checked out the 'hood in case we ever move from the south of #halifax

'Tenacious as hell': Word on the Street's Steven Laffoley

Literary festival.

Writer of five novels says event gives the talent of Nova Scotia a chance to showcase their literary skills



BACKSTAGE PASS

Jenna Conter
jhalifax@metronews.ca

Every journalist is said to have half a novel under their desk. Reporters, feature writers, columnists, copy editors — you name it.

Confined to word limits, the infinite space and freedom of writing a book is a romantic concept. According to local author Steven Laffoley, starting your literary opus is one thing — finishing it is the true battle.

With five novels under his belt, Laffoley prides himself on his ability to utilize the resources provided to him by the history of Halifax.

"(Halifax) is layered in stories so it doesn't take a lot to come across something good," he said. "I enjoy giving voice to the voiceless — one of the themes that has been consistent in my work."

Having been my junior high English teacher, I'm surprised that material hasn't made Laffoley the Stephen King of Halifax.

Under his tutelage, I am attempting to put pen to paper and publish. With little more than a short story saved on my computer, I remain in awe of any writer with their own title on their bookshelf.

"The best advice you can



Steven Laffoley will be at the Remarkable Reads with Halifax Magazine stage from 3 to 3:30 p.m. on Sunday. CONTRIBUTED

Quoted

"The advice 'write what you know' is good but misunderstood. I think it should be 'write who you are' — your style will come from the perspective you take when telling the story."

Steven Laffoley

give someone who is looking to get published is to finish writing the book," he said. "(Writers) start out with the best of intentions and will find a thousand

reasons to quit.

"I doubt that I'm the best writer or the best story teller but I'm willing to be tenacious as hell."

Laffoley describes writ-

ing as "a lot of grunt work."

"It's like running a marathon — unless you've done it you don't know the endurance required to see it through and feel that glorious sense of completion."

Laffoley will be joined at the finish line by over 50 authors featured during this Sunday's Word on the Street on the Halifax waterfront.

"We have fantastic writers from this province and we are out-publishing the

Details

Word on the Street goes Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the Halifax waterfront. For more information visit thewordonthestreet.ca

On the web



Qriket

R. Kelly makes Soul Train history as most nominated act ever, Usher leads with 5 nods

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If you don't know him, you should

Q&A. Metro recently sat down to chat with Tiësto, the world-famous DJ who is making waves in electronic dance music

MICHELLE CASTILLO
Metro New York

Calling Tiësto the world's biggest DJ might be a slight understatement. More than one million people across six continents attended his 15-month 2010 Kaleidoscope World Tour, including the final date in Los Angeles where he performed before an audience of 26,000 fans — the most ever in U.S. history for a single DJ event.

That's not to mention his recent compilations and albums *Club Life: Volume One* Las Vegas, *Kiss From The Past*, and *Club Life: Volume Two* Miami, all which have become hits in the dance music world. We caught up with the Dutch DJ at the Electric Zoo Festival in Randall's Island, New York City, to talk about his upcoming tours, his foray into fashion and why his mom's home cooking is the best.

You're about to go on stage at Electric Zoo. What can people who are coming to your show expect.

I thought about it a lot today. I'm going to play a lot of hard stuff. It's outdoors right before the darkness, so I'm going to play a lot of hard stuff and a couple of focal tracks and a few new tracks of mine.

I understand you're going on a U.S. college tour. Why colleges and why that age group?

First of all, it's a great crowd to play for. They're all fresh and hungry for dance music. I think not many people have seen me at that age. I always get a lot of tweets and requests (about) when am I going to play under-18 shows. I can't do that anywhere. This is the closest I can get where I can reach my younger audience.



Tiësto, 43, hails from the Netherlands. GETTY PHOTO ORDERED

You have a Guess fashion collection coming up. Tell me a little bit more about what inspired you.

I always liked Guess, and I met Paul Marciano, and I went to dinner with him. He's a big Tiësto fan, and I was always a big fan of his campaigns. So I was like why don't we do anything together? We started thinking about it, and it spontaneously came together very organically.

Is there going to be a lot of dayglo? Neon colours?

No, for the first part of the collection I tried to keep it very basic because I didn't have much experience yet. I didn't want to go to crazy.

So what are we going to see a lot of?

Very basic colours. A nice black leather jacket. Lots of T-shirts. Very simple, but a lot of detail. The women's collection is more exciting than men's.

Have you always been into fashion?

As I started to become a bigger DJ, I became more into fashion. I couldn't afford it back in the day. I had other things on my mind!

I like it when people dress nice, when you see a girl and a guy put in a little effort, it looks good. I really appreciate that.

You're headlining the Staples Center in October. Why did you want to return to L.A.?

It's been a while since I've

been in L.A. Staples Center is such an iconic venue, and I've always wanted to play there. It was available that day so I said let's do it!

You're from the Netherlands. When you are on tour what food do you miss the most?

My mom's food of course! She makes very good chicken. She makes chicken with raisins and rice and a special sauce. No one else can make it. It's really good. It's not really Dutch food I think.

Typical Dutch food is snacks.

Coming from the Netherlands, what have you noticed about people around the world?

I noticed that a lot of people are actually the same around the world, but there's just a communication failure. People misunderstand people's culture, but if you really get to the culture, it's really the same around the world. But, because the way you express yourself is different than you do in Europe, people misunderstand you.

I'm not going to make you pick the country with the best fans, but which country has the craziest fans?

I think Mexico. Mexico has crazy fans. When I

Quote

"I think people in the EDM world are very free and very liberal, that's why it's so attractive to everybody. In general people are so positive. If you go to an EDM festival, there's never fights, there's no violence. People love each other and support the music, and it's the best crowd there is in any music genre."

Tiësto

play there, they have complete squares with my names on it. Crazy fans!

Are you surprised how global electronic music has become?

I'm surprised and so happy. I came to the U.S. in 2000 for the first time and I never thought it was going to be like this.

I was playing in Vegas only three years ago, and I was like, "I would love to have a residency to play every week here because I love Vegas." But, everything was hip-hop. I told the promoter I worked with then, and he said 'Yeah it would be great if you could do it, but it will never happen.' We were both like it will never happen. And it's here.

The song that put you on the map was the remix of the Pirates of the Caribbean theme song. Are you sick of that song now?

Yeah. I must say. I always look at the future. I don't look very much in the past. Everything I did in the past I don't play much anymore. It's such a different time now, a different sound. I miss those days sometimes, but that was then. It was a different period in my life and now I'm here. I don't play Pirates of the Caribbean; I haven't played it in two years. It would be weird to play it now because it doesn't fit my sound. Maybe if I do a complete old school set?

Who are you running for?*

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Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Angelina Jolie makes her brother a maid of honour

While the date of Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt's wedding may still be a mystery, some of the other details are coming together — like who will be by the bride's side through the ceremony.

Jolie has reportedly enlisted her brother, James Haven, to serve as her maid of honour — of sorts — for

the big day, according to Heat.

"James was thrilled to accept his little sister's offer. Angie has always related to men better than women," the source says. "As well as growing up with James, she bonded more with the jocks than the cheerleaders."

Paltrow lets her kids only watch cartoons in foreign languages

Gwyneth Paltrow isn't above letting her two children — 8-year-old daughter Apple and 6-year-old son Moses, watch a little TV, but she has some conditions.

"I only let them watch TV in French or Spanish," Paltrow tells InStyle magazine. "When I'm in France, I go to (Boulevard) Beaumarchais and buy all their cartoons."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Shocker: Lohan arrested again



Lindsay Lohan was arrested again — I could type that phrase with my eyes closed at this point — in New York City on Monday night.

Lohan was at the wheel when her Porsche pulled up to the Dream Hotel in the Meatpacking District around 12:30 a.m., hitting an unidentified man in the knee.

Reportedly "unaware" of the accident, Lohan and her crew went into the hotel before authorities could arrive.

She was arrested upon leaving about a half-hour later and released without bail since the charge is only a misdemeanor.

The man checked into a nearby hospital,

but there were no visible injuries, according to sources.

Per TMZ, Lohan is saying the accident is "really fishy" because the man didn't appear to have any visible injuries and feels she's the victim of a set up.

And surveillance video supports that — it apparently shows her accuser was exaggerating.

Conspiracy or no, this brings up a few questions:

1. Why is Lindsay Lohan driving in New York City?

If I can afford to take a cab, she can afford to take a cab.

2. How much is her car insurance? It must be more than my take-home salary at this point.

3. Who is her current lawyer? He's the hardest working man in show business (besides Kirstie Alley's tailor) and yet no one knows his name.

Twitter



@ElizabethBanks

Catching up with news and my take-away is this: Kate Middleton is even more flawless than previously assumed. #RoyalAbs



@ZoeyDexchannel

I just want to wear sweaters and coats but the universe isn't playing along.



@EllenPage

Dear America, I've a very important question. Why are chickpeas called garbanzo beans here? Thanks



@SarahKSilverman

A bull in pretty much any shop is gonna be a mess



Sofia Vergara

"Do you know who I am?" Apparently not, Sofia

Sofia Vergara didn't have as nice of a night out in Hollywood recently as she'd been expecting. The Modern Family star hit The Parlor to meet up with a group of friends but was denied access as the bar

was at capacity, according to Hollyscoop.

According to onlookers, Vergara blew up at the bouncer, shouting, "Do you know who I am?"

A friend who was already inside came out to see what was going on and joined in yelling at the bouncer before Vergara stormed off. She later took a moment to blast the venue on Twitter, posting that it is the "worst sports bar in LA!"

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London calling!

From neutrals to bold colours, from the masculine to the feminine, from the '50s to the future and back again: London Fashion Week's lady is one of contrasts and undeniable cool.

RICHARD PECKETT
life@metronews.ca



Paul Smith

Of course, Paul Smith, best known for his classic tailoring, couldn't go so far as to omit his signature pieces from his latest outing — but he did introduce a few fresh ideas. Color-blocking ran through the collection from airy, pleated skirts slit high to mid-thigh, billowing dresses and shirts, to pajama-esque pants. New ideas aside, it was the high-waisted, mannish-style cropped trousers that proved to be the biggest success, while the striped stirrup pants and tightly cut jackets read a touch awkward.

Vivienne Westwood

Vivienne Westwood's show consisted of '50s-inspired lady-like pieces: cocktail dresses, jacquard skirt-suits, fitted frocks and flared skirts, headscarves and twin-sets with painted faces in yellow, green, pink and blue make-up. Seemingly pared-down for Westwood but then there was a live performance by Rooster with singer Sara Stockbridge to ramp up the anti-establishment punk vibe.



Sass & Bide

Sass & Bide's Sarah-Jane Clarke and Heidi Middleton toyed with the idea of masculinity and femininity. That trope surfaced as white and black, silk versus embellishment and the reinterpretation of the tuxedo. Dresses came with structured origami pleats, sometimes edged with embellishment or featuring the camellia flower — a symbol of perfection. There were shots of hot colour too, with the introduction of fluoro orange shells and silver paillettes.

Issa

Designer Daniella Helayel was obviously feeling hot, hot, hot on the run-up to her latest outing. Vibrant, popping colours (hot pink, orange, reds and yellows) welcomed the dawn of a '70s tropical Garden of Eden, complete with orchid-styled hairdos. Billowing caftans, tiered full-length smocks, kimonos and maxi cuts all made their way down the runway. That said, it was the halterneck jumpsuits that were the racier and more daring standouts in this collection.



Nicole Farhi

Nicole Farhi bid farewell (kind of) to her label with a perfectly sculpted and cerebral collection. Next season sees the inception of Joanna Sykes at the creative helm, although Farhi will still be involved with the label in some capacity. The 66-year-old was inspired by the way in Carrara, Italy, changing light levels cast shadows across the marble mountains there. Her passion for artisan sculpture, fabrics and silhouettes was clear from the complex pleats that represented the shadows on her neutral colour collection.

On the web



Qriket

Kate Moss, Lana Del Rey at British brand Mulberry's '70s-inspired fashion show

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Guidelines for pre-approval

Financial review.

Find out what you can and can't afford when looking for a home

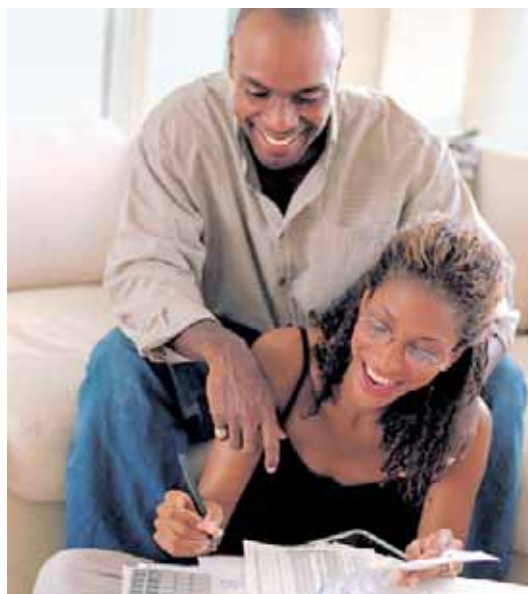
YLVA
VAN BUUREN
For Metro

Getting a pre-approved mortgage before you start shopping for a house or condo is a good idea because it lets you know what you can — and can't — afford.

A pre-approved mortgage is a tentative determination by a lender to loan you a certain amount of money, explains Brenda Hiscock, a member of Advocis, the Financial Advisors Association of Canada, and a certified financial planner with Guilfoyle Financial Planning Inc.

The amount is based on a review of your finances, and the confirmation with fixed interest rate is good for 90 to 120 days.

"But pre-approval doesn't mean that you're approved by the lender," says Jared Dreyer, president of the Mortgage Brokers Association of B.C. and an accredited mort-



There are a number of specific guidelines you must meet before you are pre-approved for a mortgage. PHOTODISC/THINKSTOCK

gage professional at VERICO Dreyer Group Mortgages, Vancouver. "What it means is that you have the ability to go out and make an offer with the condition of financing."

How does the lender deter-

mine how much you qualify for?

There are some very specific guidelines, says Hiscock. Monthly housing costs (mortgage payments, property taxes and heating) should not

be more than 32 per cent of your gross monthly income (combined if it's a couple). Also, your entire monthly debt load (housing costs and other debt payments such as car payments and credit card payments) should not be more than 40 per cent of your gross monthly income.

Here is the type of information you need to provide a lender when you are looking to get a pre-approval:

- Personal identification;
- Confirmation of salary (if you are self-employed, tax returns from the last three years);
- Proof of other sources of income (such as investment income);
- Information about all bank accounts, loans and other debts;
- Proof of all financial assets such as GIC's, RRSP's, etc.;
- Source and amount of down payment and deposit funds;
- Proof of source of funds to cover the closing costs (usually between two and four per cent of the purchase price).

Visit the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada (fcac-acfc.gc.ca/eng/resources/publications/) for more information about getting pre-approved for a mortgage.

Shop around for best lender

If you are starting the process of buying a house, talking to your bank about its mortgage options is always a good starting point, especially if you have an established relationship with someone there.

But experts say it's important to check out other lenders for information, too.

Banks, mortgage companies, insurance companies, loan companies and credit unions all sell mortgages.

Remember that you are entering into a potential 25-year relationship, says Brenda Hiscock, a member of Advocis, the Financial Advisors Association of Canada, and a certified financial planner with Guilfoyle Financial Planning Inc.

"Make sure you are comfortable, and feel trust with the institution, and the person you are dealing with."

Some of the mortgage options you should ask about include:

Mortgage brokers

- If you want someone else to find the best rate for you, you should speak to a mortgage broker.
- A mortgage broker deals with many different lenders and can offer several choices. For example, brokers deal with private lenders so there may be more options available to those with poor credit or unstable income history.
- Pre-payment — Can you apply a lump sum payment every year?
- Terms — What mortgages are available (open or closed, variable or fixed) and for what terms?
- Conditions — If you have to break the mortgage early, what would the penalty be?

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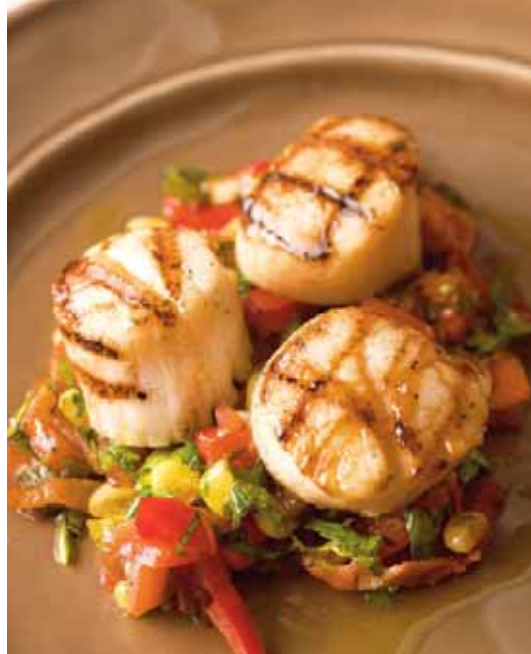


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Hot, salty ragout complements flavours of scallops, other seafood

Grilled Scallops with Corn, Bacon & Red Pepper Ragout



This recipe serves four. ROB FEENIE'S CASUAL CLASSICS: DOUGLAS & MACINTYRE

Rob Feenie first wowed diners with his innovative tasting menus at the inventive Lumiere restaurant in Vancouver. Today, he creates delicious family-style recipes for Cactus Club restaurants with thousands of people of all ages enjoying his signature dishes.

But before he became Canada's first Iron Chef America champion, Feenie paid his culinary dues with stints at Alsace with Chef Emile Jung at Au Crocodile and Antoine Westermann at Buerhiesel, both Michelin three-star-rated restaurants, in Chicago with Charlie Trotter and in New York with Daniel Boulud and Jean-Georges Vongerichten.

Among the recipes in the chef's book Rob Feenie's Casual Classics is this scallop dish. "This dish makes an excellent starter for a meal or a nice lunch when served with a simple green salad," Feenie writes in the book. "I use Qualicum Bay scallops and peaches-and-cream corn, both of which are local products, but you can substitute other varieties of either."

"The hot and salty ragout is an especially good combina-

Ingredients

- 1 tbsp soy sauce
- 1 tbsp rice vinegar
- 1 tbsp fresh lemon juice
- 2 slices smoked bacon, in 1/4-inch dice
- 1/2 cup diced red onions
- 1 cup corn kernels, cut off the cob
- 1/2 red bell pepper, in 1/4 inch

- dice (about 1/2 cup)
- 1 Thai chili, seeded and finely minced
- Juice of 1 lime (about 1 tbsp)
- 1 tbsp unsalted butter
- 12 large scallops (muscles removed from sides if present)
- 1 tsp extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 tbsp finely chopped cilantro

tion with scallops, but it's also delicious with baked halibut or grilled steelhead salmon."

1. In a small bowl, combine soy sauce, rice vinegar and lemon juice. Set aside.

2. Heat a large frying pan on medium. Add the bacon and cook for 2 to 3 minutes, stirring, until crisp. Stir in onions, corn, bell peppers and chili and sauté for 2 minutes, then add lime juice and butter.

3. Season with salt and pepper, reduce the heat to low and simmer while scallops are cooking. (Or refrigerate the ragout in an airtight container for

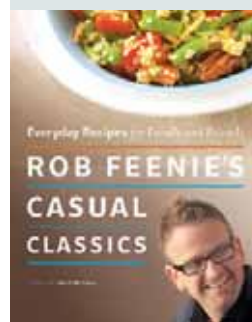
up to two days.)

4. Preheat a stovetop grill or a barbecue to medium-high. Warm a plate in the oven at 200 F. Pat scallops dry with paper towels and season with salt, pepper and a dash of olive oil. Grill scallops for 2 minutes, turn over and grill for another 1 minute. Transfer to the warm plate.

5. Divide the ragout evenly among 4 plates and top each serving with 3 scallops. Spoon about 2 tsp of the soy dressing over each plate and garnish with cilantro. Serve. **FROM ROB FEENIE'S CASUAL CLASSICS BY ROB FEENIE (DOUGLAS & MACINTYRE)**

Cookbook of the Week

Simple yet special



Rob Feenie, the longtime leader in the casual fine dining movement, reveals his favourite recipes in Rob Feenie's Casual Classics: Everyday Recipes for Family and Friends.

The book brings together the best innovative and approachable meals.

From such fundamental recipes as Roasted Tomato Sauce and Juicy Poached Chicken to globally inspired dishes like Barbecued Duck Spring Rolls, Quinoa Jambalaya and Braised Osso Buco, these are real-life modern classics that are adaptable to budgets, dietary restrictions and busy schedules.

METRO

Lighting: A decorator's best friend



DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Every great decorator will tell you that lighting is one of the

most important elements to having a beautiful room.

Without a true soft light, the finest furnishings and fabrics can look all wrong.

The past few years have been difficult for decorating enthusiasts as more and more provinces are regulating to phase out the soft light from the old incandescent bulbs.

British Columbia and Nova Scotia are two provinces leading the way to phase them out and introduce more efficient options. As time goes on, more and more regulations will be put in place to introduce a more efficient, safer bulb to use.

I've always been reluctant to use the new style of LED lighting when decorating as I thought the light would be too harsh, bright and cool in colour.

New advancements are creating bulbs that are not only efficient, but that create a soft light, similar to what we've always been used to.

The Philips Ambient LED Bulbs offer up a soft white

LED bulbs facts

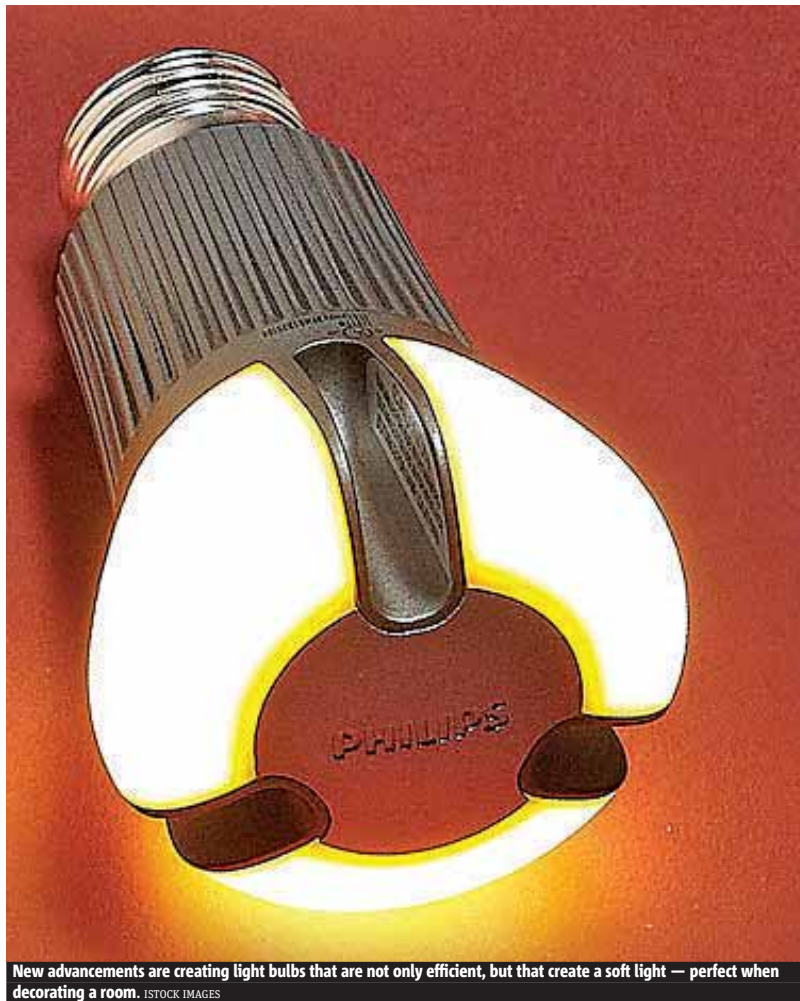
- LED bulbs can save more than 80 per cent energy.
- An LED bulb lasts over 20 years, outlasting about 20 of the old style bulbs.
- The Philips Ambient LED Bulbs can be dimmed to create many ambient looks in a room.
- You don't need to change your regular socket-style light fixtures to accommodate the new LED bulbs.

light similar to the light you get with the old incandescent bulbs, last more than 20 times longer and use only about 20 per cent of the energy of a regular incandescent bulb.

The new LED bulbs fit the regular socket styles for fixtures and the good news is that it can be dimmed; allowing homeowners to use their existing light fixtures, create a designer look and ambience in a room.

When I heard of this new technology I quickly went out and purchased some of the bulbs.

They were not an inexpensive investment (the new bulbs range from \$18-38 each) but considering the energy they will save over time and the fact that I won't have to get back on the ladder to change the bulb for another 20 years made me a very happy decorator.



New advancements are creating light bulbs that are not only efficient, but that create a soft light — perfect when decorating a room. ISTOCK IMAGES

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BE PREPARED



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PLANNING TO BUILD
METRO CUSTOM
PUBLISHING

BUILDING A HOME FROM SCRATCH IS A MORE COMPLEX PROCESS, DELAYS MAY OCCUR

For people who own land and are planning to build a home from scratch, the process allows them to get exactly what they want. However, the process also usually involves a few more headaches.

"It's always easier to buy a house that is already up," notes Sandy Hines, a real estate agent with Royal LePage.

When building from scratch, there is a much greater chance for delays by having to apply for and acquire permits, and the weather might also complicate the process.

In light of that, Hines says people must have backup options in case the home doesn't get completed on time.

For most people, hiring a contractor to build a home from scratch is a new experience for them. In light of that, it's key that they surround themselves with

people whose expertise can help move the project forward with as few disruptions as possible.

Hines recommends that people hire a real estate agent to help them protect their interests.

"They understand the contracts and can see a contract that's biased towards the builder, not the buyer," he says.

An example is if the contract didn't contain any holdbacks for deficiencies.

For this reason, it's important to have a lawyer who specializes in real estate transactions to review the contract to ensure it has adequate protections for the homeowner.

The contract that will be used is called a construction contract, as opposed to the traditional turn-key one.

RESTRICTIONS

Depending on where one buys a lot to build their home, they might not have much flexibility in choosing a builder.

"If you want to be in any of the new popular subdivisions, you're going to be restricted to use the builders that are there," says Sandy Hines, a real estate agent with Royal LePage.

"With a construction contract, there are progress draws required," says Evan Collins, the general manager of Skymark Homes.

This means that as construction progresses, draws will be conducted to

compensate the builder for the work they have done to date. It will also add some time to the process.

"With a draw-style mortgage, it typically takes a little longer because at each stage, the bank or your broker will send out an inspector to the site," says Collins.

This is done to confirm that the various stages of construction have been completed.

Where the individual is the land owner, they will be the ones responsible for getting the appropriate permits. However, it is often written into the contract that the builder be the one to do this.

"A lot of times if I'm building on someone else's land ... I include the permits and the surveying and the engineering designs," says Collins.

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CHOOSING THE RIGHT BUILDER

With so many home builders out there, it can seem like a daunting process to decide on which one to pick when you are going to build a home.

The first step of this process is to do the appropriate research.

"You've got to do your homework," says Paul Pettipas, the CEO of the Nova Scotia Home Builders' Association (NSHBA).

His first recommendation is to look for a builder that is a member of an association, such as the NSHBA. Pettipas says this is an indication the builder is committed to continuous improvement and taking courses to hone their craft. Using the NSHBA as an example, he says members must also abide by a code of ethics to uphold high standards of professionalism.

It is also wise to see if the builder is a member of the Better Business Bureau or if they belong to an independent warranty program.

In searching for a builder, it is also a



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wise idea to get references from friends, family and co-workers to see if they have had any experience with a builder.

Pettipas also recommends looking for builders who have won awards.

"If they've won an award, it usually means it's a third-party who has put them through criteria and said, 'Yeah, you've done a good job,'" he says.

When interviewing potential build-

ers, there are a number of questions you should be asking them. On its website, the Canadian Home Builders' Association (CHBA) lists a number of questions that one should ask. One thing to find out is whether the builder will allow you to visit one (or more) of their work sites. These site visits help give one an impression of the way the company does business, as well as the quality of the work it does.

The CHBA also recommends one pay attention to details like whether the site is clean and orderly, as well as if materials are stored away from the elements.

Other questions include finding out more about the builder's background, as well as their training and experience. "Good builders are proud of their track record, whether they have been in business for three or 30 years," says the website.

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FINISHING TOUCH: PERSONAL TOUCH

THINK CAREFULLY ABOUT THE LOOK OF YOUR HOME WHEN IT COMES TO WALLS, LIGHTING, FIXTURES

For prospective homeowners, choosing one's finishes can be one of the most challenging processes that turns the house into a home.

While the process is often made simpler by the fact that in many cases the builder provides samples, ultimately, the homeowner has to decide on what finishes to use.

To further complicate things, there are also a myriad of potential upgrades one can get.

Before reaching a decision, Kimberley Eddy, the owner and interior decorator for Evolve Interior Decorating, recommends that people think carefully about the look they are going for with the home.

"It's important to have an overall picture in mind of the house and the look you want to create," she says. "It's kind of easy to be myopic in the moment."

The colours one chooses for the walls in their home is a prime example. Eddy cautions people to remember that they will see the colours on the walls every day.

"Find a colour that you love because you've got to live with it," she says.

In light of that, she says the safe bet is to go with a light to medium colour tone. In par-

FUNCTIONALITY

When looking at what types of finishes to select in a house, interior decorating instructor Sharon Charlton recommends that people look at the functionality of the space. "I would say the main consideration is the occupancy of the space," says the Success College instructor.

For example, if a house is going to include kids, choosing floors with slippery finishes isn't probably the best idea.

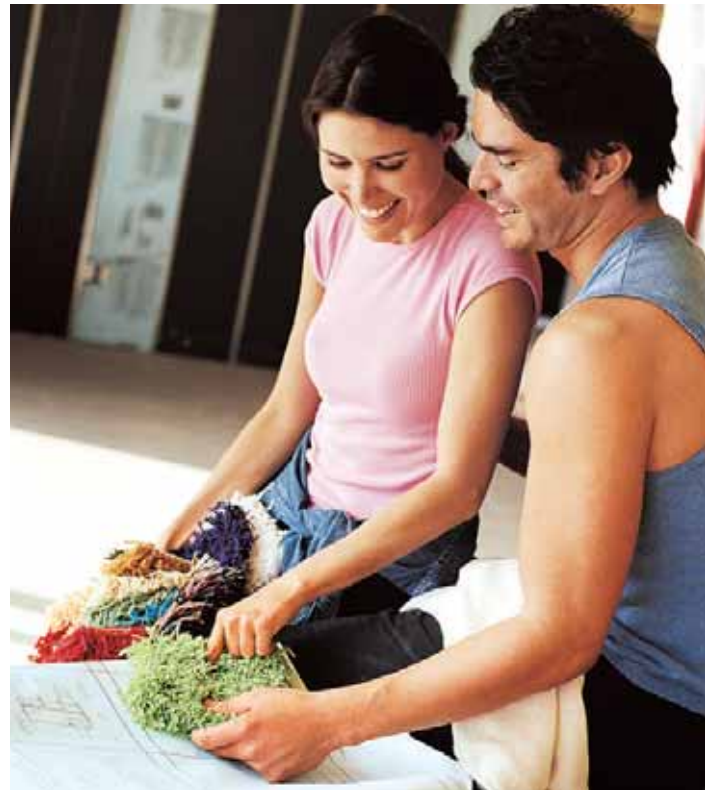
ticular, Eddy says greige — a blend between grey and beige — is popular at the moment.

Lighting is an area where homeowners will have to make multiple decisions, as each room in a house will often have slightly different lighting requirements. The one area where Eddy suggests not skimping is in the dining room. She recommends getting an "opulent oversized statement chandelier."

Another way of making a big statement is through the use of a backsplash in the kitchen, as well as in a bathroom. "If you're just doing a small powder room, that's a fantastic way to make a statement," says Eddy.

The benefit of a backsplash in a bathroom is that because there will be less backsplash tile used, it makes the job more affordable.

One final thing to consider is the type of countertop used. Moving to a natural stone countertop — such as granite, marble or limestone — from a laminate countertop are all wise upgrade ideas.



DIGITAL VISION/THINKSTOCK

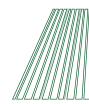
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USE REFERENCES TO FIND THE RIGHT BUILDER FOR YOU

Building and renovating your home can be stressful, with nightmare scenarios ranging from delayed construction dates to discovering you have gone way over budget when you get slapped with your bill. Here are some tips on how to avoid the pitfalls of the building process.

Local lawyer Elias Metlej encourages anyone who is building a new home to stagger their move-in and move-out dates. "We see it all the time, when people are moving out of houses — their move-out date of their existing property is often the same date that they move into a new construction," Metlej says.

When hiring a builder, make sure you have a contract that protects your interests. Many builders use their own forms, rather than the standard forms provided by The Nova Scotia Association of Realtors (NSAR).

He also cautions that when new home



GOODSHOOT/THINKSTOCK

builders get their first draw from a bank, it's often far less than anticipated. Banks often hold back 10 per cent for a builder's lein. "We see major issues with respect to cash flow. This is probably the most common error that people make."

Reduce financial stress by saving money where you can. If you fall in a low income bracket, you may be eligible for a free upgrade from Efficiency Nova Scotia, such as new insulation and eco-friendly light fixtures.

FACTS & FIGURES

- New homes and renovations account for roughly \$2 billion of the Nova Scotia economy and help employ more than 21,000 workers.
- About 12 per cent of the drywall builders purchase ends up as scrap (Venolia and Lerner 2006).
- Nova Scotia's residential construction sales increased to \$2,224.0 million in 2010 from \$331.4 million in 1980 (Cannac Economics Limited, January 2011).

Paul Pettipas, CEO of the Nova Scotia Home Builders Association, encourages home builders to find the right builder by requesting references and making sure builders have liability insurance and workers' compensation. It's also important to make sure you simply get along with your builder.

"Let's face it, you're going to be with that builder for four to six months," Pettipas says. "A broken contract is almost like a bad marriage."

ADVERTISING FEATURE

NEW HOME WARRANTIES. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW.



With more than 450 builder members in Atlantic Canada, the Lux Residential Warranty Program has brought clarity to home warranties for the past eight years with its fresh and earnest approach. To understand more about Lux, we asked Greg Cormier, the vice-president of operations, a few questions.

Give us an example of Lux's fresh and earnest approach.

We are very upfront about what is and is not covered with a warranty. Canadian warranty programs, conduct a very beneficial role in our industry and the final coverage is one part of it.

We feel homeowners and builders benefit most by understanding our

role, the limitations and items that are not covered. That's why we have our "what you need to know" on our web site and refrain from marketing information that may leave an impression that there is nothing else to be concerned about.

What is Lux's warranty?

During the first year, the warranty covers the standard latent defects, while major structural defects affecting the load-bearing portion of one's home are covered for 5 to 10 years. We also offer a 10 year foundation water penetration and limited extended first year coverage in years 2 to 5.

What do you think makes Lux unique?

We are a service-oriented and focus on attracting the best quality builders possible. Our members are treated with integrity and friendly personalized services. We offer a simplified process

such as same day registrations, free education, free to builder extended coverage's and service awards.

We also provide a helpline so homeowners can receive prompt and informative assistance unique to their concerns. On potential major structural defect claims, we offer free qualification inspections. Other benefits we offer include simplified online home warranty transfers. Homeowners can also purchase extended coverage for items such as roof and foundation leaks in years two to five.

Is there anything you'd like to add?

As part of their due diligence in purchasing a home, homeowners need to understand what is and isn't covered under their warranty. I invite homeowners and builders to visit our web site for better details and future initiatives scheduled for later this season.

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BEING EFFICIENT AND SUSTAINABLE

Despite mounting mortgage prices, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) analysts report that more people are buying and building new houses in 2012 than in 2011 in Halifax. "Really, in the last year, after the shipbuilding contract we saw a bit of an increase in the demand for houses in Halifax," explains senior analyst Matthew Gilmore.

If you are interested in building your own home, here's what you need to know.

When it comes to mortgage costs, location is key. "What we're seeing in Halifax, there's a lot of new construction in Hammonds Plains and Bedford areas and, of course, those areas have higher prices," explains Gilmore.

The key to building affordably is building sustainably and efficiently. "I always encourage people to think smaller," says Kim Thompson, a Halifax-based green builder who specializes in designing natural buildings and wall finishes. "You can maximize a lot of your energy efficiency savings and your budget."

Thompson encourages new home builders to creatively reuse older materials when possible and to consult The Ecology Action Centre's Waste? NOT! Toolkit (ecologyaction.ca/toolkit) for tips on how to do so. For example, broken tiles can find new life as mosaics, and old bricks and stones can make beautiful garden walls and paths. Find used materials at Maritime Demolition and through online groups like Freecycle (freecycle.org/group/CA/).

GET YOUR DUCKS IN A ROW

ACQUIRING PERMITS ISN'T AS COMPLEX AS ONE MIGHT THINK

Permits — it's a word that can bring a lot of uncertainty to one's mind. In the case of getting the appropriate permits when building a home, the good news is that it isn't as complex as one might think.

But whose responsibility is it to get the permit?

"Essentially, the property owner is responsible for complying with the building code regulation," says Jim Donovan, the manager of municipal compliance with HRM.

This means that if somebody is buying a home from a builder, it will be the builder's responsibility to get the permits. However, if somebody is hiring a builder to build the home for them, it will be the individual's responsibility.

That being said, the builder is often the one getting the permits.

"In the vast majority of instances, we're seeing professional builders obtaining permits and communicating with us," says Donovan.

Because of the builders' experience with permits and their understanding of the process involved, people will have it written into contracts that the builder be the one to handle everything permit related (even if the individual is the one who hired the builder).

For people looking to learn more about the permit process, the Permits & Inspections portion of HRM's website



ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

features a lot of great information that helps demystify the process.

HRM's goal is to approve a permit within five business days of receiving a complete application.

To get a permit, people must visit one of HRM's three customer service centres (located in Halifax, Dartmouth and Sackville) in person.

Even once a person has the permits they need, HRM is still involved somewhat in the home building process as it performs a number of inspec-

tions at certain periods of the construction process. These inspections will examine things such as the underground plumbing and the framing.

To get an inspection, people must call the inspection line. Donovan says a visit will occur within 48 hours, but it is likely that the wait won't be more than 24 hours.

Visit halifax.ca/PermitsInspections/ to learn more about the ins and outs of permits when building a home (or doing a renovation).

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PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT WITH A WARRANTY

Just like an electronic good or a vehicle, most new homes come with a warranty. For most people, a home will be the largest purchase of their lives, so it's reassuring to have some peace and comfort in the form of a warranty.

"The first year, pretty much everything is covered, like if you're buying a vehicle," says Darrin Boudreau, a real estate agent with Re/Max Nova.

If a house has a warranty with it, the first year portion of the warranty can be

thought of as being like a vehicle's bumper-to-bumper warranty because it is at this point that the warranty is most thorough.

In Nova Scotia, many new homes come with something called an Atlantic Home Warranty (AHW). This warranty covers the home for seven years.

While the first year is covered by the builder, the remaining years of coverage fall under the responsibility of the AHW.

During years two to seven, the warranty is not as comprehensive.

"The remaining six years is more for major structural defects," says Boudreau.

In that regard, the warranty is kind of like a vehicle's powertrain warranty in that while it may last longer, it isn't as thorough as the bumper-to-bumper warranty.

Examples of things that would be covered during Year 1, but not the remaining years of the warranty, include a squeaky floor or nails coming out of the gyprock.

Boudreau says major structural defects aren't very common. In part, he attributes

this to the system of checks and balances that exist with the city and the building permits it issues for new construction.

Ultimately, Boudreau feels it's key that people use builders who belong to a warranty program like the AHW.

"The main thing is not every builder belongs," says Boudreau.

"Be careful of builders that don't belong and kind of say, 'We'll give you our own warranties' and things like that or don't offer any warranty."



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When building your dream home, you might want to think about green. Not the colour — instead, making your renovation an eco-friendly one. While eco options sometimes cost more in the short term, in the long run they can end up giving you an energy-efficient home that saves you a bundle on energy and water costs. Here's how to green your build.

RECYCLE FIRST

Is your build a gut-and-rebuild? If so, consider recycling some of the home's existing features first. "So you look at what the affected area of the renovation is to see if there's anything to reuse," says Peter Briand, president of Econo Renovations Ltd. in Lawrencetown, N.S. "So are there studs to use? Or can you power wash the decking, flip it over and turn it into a nice new deck again? Being green is saving it from the landfill."

INSULATE, INSULATE, INSULATE

Insulating your house properly is one of the best ways to give your build the best green bang for its buck. If you are rebuilding, insulate those walls while the drywall is down, suggests Christopher A. Higgins, program leader for LEED Canada for Homes in Vancouver. And if you are building brand new, look at the windows you are installing, he says. "Look for double- or triple-glaze windows," he suggests. ("Glazing" refers to how many layers of glass the window has to increase its insulation.)

Other ways to save on heating and cooling include opting for efficient energy touches — think a programmable thermostat, installing Energy Star doors and skylights and installing a high-efficiency furnace or boiler, notes Naomi Resnick, the marketing director for Home Depot's Eco Options brand.

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Mooseheads split captain's duties



Veteran Mooseheads defenceman Trey Lewis will share the team's captaincy with Stefan Fournier this season. METRO FILE

Two worthy of the job. Lewis, Fournier get coach's nod to share the honour of leading team



MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

When it came time to pick a captain, Halifax Mooseheads head coach Dominique Ducharme sat down with every player on his team and asked point blank who should have the job. The responses were more or less an even split between 19-year-old defenceman Trey Lewis and 20-year-old right-winger Stefan Fournier.

"It was always coming back to us, Trey, Fournier or Fournier, Trey," Ducharme said. "Everything showed that those two guys were right there at the same level."

Ducharme, along with his coaching staff and general manager Cam Russell, ultimately made the call on Wednesday to name Lewis and Fournier co-captains for the 2012-13 season.



Newly named Mooseheads co-captain Stefan Fournier will wear the 'C' on his jersey for away games. JEFF HARPER/METRO HALIFAX

Lewis will wear the 'C' at home and serve as an assistant on the road and Fournier will do the opposite.

"We just felt it had to be co-captains," Ducharme said. "Both have a lot of impact. We didn't want to diminish one of their impacts by naming just one captain."

Lewis, in his third year with

native entering his fifth year in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League (QMJHL), had 32 goals with the Victoriaville Tigres last season before being traded to the Mooseheads for draft picks in June.

Ducharme said he didn't have any reservations giving a newcomer a letter after having such an overwhelmingly positive experience doing the same with Cameron Critchlow last season.

"Fournier's lived a lot of situations, positive and negative," Ducharme said. "He's working hard and when he showed up, he took younger guys under his wing."

Ducharme said the co-captains lead in different ways.

"Trey is a little bit more vocal in the room and Fournier is working closely one-on-one with guys," Ducharme said.

Brent Andrews, a 19-year-old centre entering his fourth season with the Mooseheads, will serve as the lone full-time assistant captain. The third 'A' will rotate, with Darcy Ashley getting the nod for Friday's season opener against the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles in Sydney.

Fournier, a Dorval, Que.,

Getting healthy

All present and accounted for

The Halifax Mooseheads are expecting to have 23 healthy players, including suspended winger Martin Frk and a spare third goal-tender, for Friday's season opener against the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles in Sydney on Friday.

Defenceman Steve Gillard and left winger Luca Ciampini were the only players who didn't skate at practice on Wednesday at the Halifax Civic Centre as the Mooseheads inched closer to shaking off a week-long flu-like virus.

Gillard is expected to return to practice on Thursday before the team bus leaves for Sydney. Ciampini might not be so lucky.

Either way, the Mooseheads appear to be out of the woods and won't need to call anybody up for Friday's game.

"We'll be fine," said Mooseheads head coach Dominique Ducharme.

MATTHEW WUEST/METRO HALIFAX



Luca Ciampini may not be healthy enough to play against Sydney. JEFF HARPER/METRO HALIFAX

Top 10 list

Halifax ranks No. 6 in CHL

The Halifax Mooseheads have been ranked the sixth-best team in the Canadian Hockey League as they embark on a new season.

The Mooseheads got the nod in the first of the CHL's weekly Top 10 lists, ranked only behind the Quebec Remparts among QMJHL teams. The Remparts are also No. 1 in the country.

The Mooseheads, who went 4-2 in the QMJHL pre-season, have a talented squad loaded with returning players, including 17-year-old stars Nathan MacKinnon, Jonathan Drouin and Zach Fucale.

It's the highest the Mooseheads have been ranked since the 2007-08 season. They briefly made their way onto the list last December, checking in at the No. 10 spot.

MATTHEW WUEST/METRO HALIFAX

Mobile sports



Cricket

The road to the 2013 World Baseball Classic starts this week and it will be anything but easy for Canada. A 16-team qualifying round for the event begins with the top squad from each four-team pool locking up a spot in next year's Classic.

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Fairview's Hollet 'never been better' ahead of UFC debut



Fairview's Roger Hollet will make his UFC debut on Saturday.

MAXIMUM FIGHTING CHAMPIONSHIP/CONTRIBUTED

MMA. After long road to top circuit, light heavyweight gets his chance in Toronto



MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

Roger Hollet has worked for eight years to get an opportunity at the highest level of mixed martial arts — and he hopes it's over in an instant.

The Fairview native, who started his MMA career in Halifax in 2004, is now 33 years old and about to make his long-awaited UFC debut. He'll face Matt Hamill in a light heavyweight bout on the undercard of UFC 152 at Air Canada Centre in Toronto on Saturday, and savouring the moment isn't on his agenda.

"I'm trying to get that knockout bonus," said Hollet, who has ended 10 of his 13 vic-

Grant vs. Dunham

Cole Harbour's T.J. Grant is also on the undercard of UFC 152. He's facing Evan Dunham in a lightweight bout and is in search of his third straight UFC win.

tories in the first round, four via knockout. "I'm going to be going in there with nothing to lose."

Hollet was originally on the UFC 152 card versus Hamill in early August, but was removed several weeks later because of a contractual issue. Once Hollet sorted out his contract problems, he got his break when Hamill's replacement opponent, Vladimir Matyushenko, tore his Achilles tendon.

"It's been nothing short of a roller-coaster ride," Hollet said. "I'm excited."

Fortunately for Hollet, a number of his friends and family members kept their

tickets after he was initially dropped from the card, so he'll have plenty of support.

"Everything worked out," Hollet said. "We couldn't ask for better timing. My first fight in the UFC in Canada — obviously, I'm pumped."

Hollet, who has a career record of 13-3, is on a five-fight winning streak, most recently defeating John Hawk last Nov. 12 at Bellator 57 in Rama, Ont.

Hamill is a 13-fight UFC veteran who is 10-4 overall. The 35-year-old last entered the octagon on Aug. 6, 2011, and is coming out of retirement for the fight.

"He's got a strong wrestling background, his stand-up is mediocre, so I'm not worried about him," Hollet said.

Hollet, who has been training in Albuquerque, N.M., with a number of top UFC fighters, said his "game has never been better." And he has no intentions of his first fight being his last.

"I'm here to stay," he said.

NBL of Canada

Draftee Johnson signs with Rainmen

The Halifax Rainmen signed Anthony Johnson, the second overall pick in last month's National Basketball League of Canada draft, on Wednesday.

Johnson, who the Rainmen landed in a draft-day trade with Moncton, is a six-foot-seven, 225-pound forward.

In a press release, Rainmen owner Andre Levingston called him an "an extremely good shooter" with a "high IQ for the game." **METRO HALIFAX**

NSSBL

Rain puts Moose Dry sweep on hold

Dartmouth Moosehead Dry will have to wait to try to wrap up their eighth Nova Scotia Senior Baseball League title in the past 10 years and the 17th in their history.

Dartmouth, with a 3-0 lead over the Kentville Wildcats in the best-of-seven NSSBL final, saw Wednesday night's Game 4 at Beazley Field postponed because of rain.

The contest has been rescheduled for Sunday at 7 p.m. **METRO**

NHL. Lockout effects already being felt

Heading east

On Wednesday, Jason Spezza signed a deal with Rapperswil-Jona in Switzerland, Anze Kopitar agreed to join his brother Gasper with Mora in Sweden and Russian stars Alex Ovechkin (Moscow Dynamo) and Pavel Datsyuk (CSKA Moscow) each returned home to play in the KHL.

The NHL also announced the cancellation of pre-season games through Sept. 30, as well as the postponement of

the Kraft Hockeyville pre-season game scheduled for Oct. 3 in Belleville, Ont., to the 2013-14 season.

Unlike in September 2004, when more than 50 per cent of NHL employees were laid off just days into the lockout, the league is trying to avoid cutting staff.

Deputy commissioner Bill Daly told The Canadian Press over the weekend that there were no immediate plans for layoffs, although multiple sources who attended Wednesday's meeting said employees were warned that further cuts could be coming.

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Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20
The Sun's entry into your opposite sign of Libra on Saturday will bring partnership problems to the forefront and this time you must not run away from them. Power struggles are likely but you were born a winner — so win.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21
Travel plans and social activities will be disrupted over the next 24 hours, and most likely it is you who will be doing the disrupting. It's OK to have second thoughts. It's OK to change your mind.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21
One of the best times of the year begins this weekend when the Sun moves into the area of your chart that governs romance and creativity. Today, do only what feels right to you. It's OK to be selfish.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23
There is a danger today that you will come on too strong and provoke some kind of backlash. Maybe that is the price you have to pay for being honest about what you believe. The truth must not be denied.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23
If you are wasting your money on things you don't need, there is still time to cut them out of your life, but you have got to be quick. Very soon, the matter will be taken out of your hands. Act now.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Although the Sun leaves your sign this weekend, that's not an invitation to slow down. Other influences indicate that your momentum will keep you going at breakneck speed for some time to come. Enjoy.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
The Sun is moving closer to your birth sign and already you can feel the positive effects. For best results though you should focus your aim and concentrate on those two or three things that mean the most to you.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Today's cosmic picture warns in no uncertain terms that if you lose your temper, for even a moment, it will be you who loses out in the long-term. Take nothing too seriously and find ways to relax.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
One of the best times of the year for friendships begins very soon, so strive to be open to everyone you meet. This is also a good time to get more personally involved in some kind of social movement.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You have accomplished a lot and have a right to feel pleased with yourself but don't take it easy because there is still more to be done. You were born to be a winner, so get out there and compete.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You may be tempted to do something out of the ordinary today but if you are smart, you will wait for the Sun to move in your favour during the weekend. Good times are coming sooner than you think.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20
What seems so confusing now will seem simple a few days. However, today's influences will bring out your passion for something, or someone, to a degree that could cause problems, so think before you act.
SALLY BROMPTON

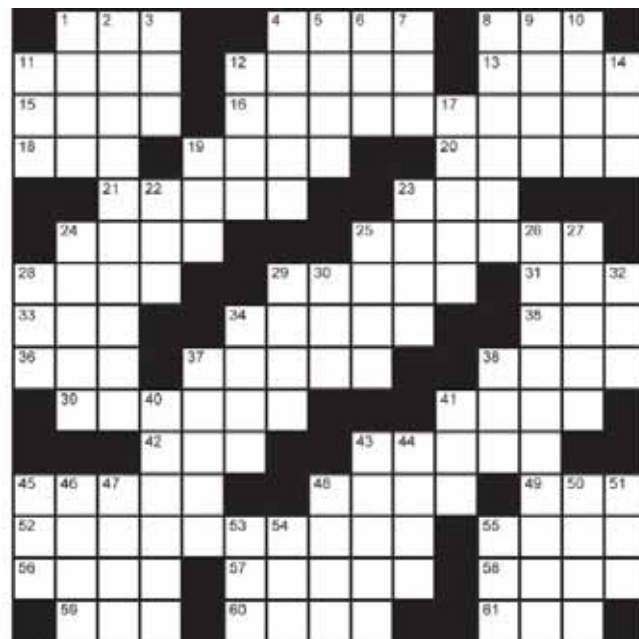
Crossword: A Cold Measure and a Hot Band

Across

1. Island: Fr.
4. Certain hockey shot
8. Affectionate touch
11. Campus Greek house, briefly
12. Circle, square, or triangle, e.g.
13. "Are you ___ out?": query to a hesitant poker player (2 wds.)
15. Acorn-dropping trees
16. Snowfall measure
18. "This is dedicated to the ___ I love"
19. Commanded, old-style
20. Sandwich cookies
21. They play their home games at BC Place Stadium in downtown Vancouver
23. Cowardly person
24. Fly by oneself
25. Surprisingly [or not more (than)] (2 wds.)
28. Greek crosses
29. Elliott of *Ocean's 11*, 12, 13
31. Bill's "excellent adventure" partner
33. "___ Could Turn Back Time": 1989 Cher hit (2 wds.)
34. 1,000 kg
35. Small battery
36. "___ amis": start of a French speech
37. Dummies or spinning toys
38. TV award
39. Saskatchewan capital
41. Salesmen, for short
42. Bruce of karate fame
43. ___ Leaf
45. Sales talk
48. ___ Pilot: PDA
49. Father
52. Montréal-based 2011 Juno Album of the Year winning group (2 wds)
55. Cold cut cutting locale
56. MTV viewer
57. Where to bowl
58. One of the Great Lakes
59. '01, '02, etc.: abbr.
60. "Beware the ___ of March": Julius Caesar
61. Winter time in Manitoba: initialism

Down

1. Persia, now
2. Banff National Park's best known tourist destination (2 wds.)
3. Some Spielberg visitors
4. Moults
5. Reporter Lois of the *Daily Planet*
6. Likely
7. Maritime Province: initialism
8. PM Trudeau
9. Early poker pot maker
10. Matador's opponent
11. Egg ___ young
12. Photocopy
14. Legal matter
17. Back-of-the-fridge problem
19. Ghostly greeting
22. They: Fr.
23. "Merry old" king of rhyme
24. Toronto-born *60 Minutes* regular Morley
25. *Sister Act* extras
26. Calgary team
27. Britches stitches
28. ___ Horton's
29. "The Naked Maja" painter
30. Yoko ___ Lennon
32. 24 hours
34. Vocal sound
37. Give up
38. Serpentine seafood
40. Gathers bit by bit
41. Engine speed
43. Female horses
44. Bar servings
45. Posed
46. Carnivore's quarry
47. "Happy birthday" writer or NHL player at times
48. Scent for a car freshener
50. Got off
51. Expire
53. He's coming in a Three Dog Night song
54. Pet rocks, once
55. Xmas mo.



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Yesterday's Crossword



What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

9	1	6	4	3	7	2	8	5
3	4	8	2	5	6	7	9	1
2	7	5	8	9	1	4	6	3
8	6	3	5	4	2	1	7	9
7	9	1	3	6	8	5	2	4
4	5	2	1	7	9	8	3	6
6	2	4	9	8	5	3	1	7
1	3	7	6	2	4	9	5	8
5	8	9	7	1	3	6	4	2

1		2		8				
8	2					7	4	
	5			1		2		
	3		4	8				6
		4				3		
5				3	9		2	
		3		9			4	
9	6					1	7	
			1		7			9

Today

15°/14°

Showers

40%

Friday

21°/18°

Rain

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